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54



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# Grapevine

Hi there!

Last week, Antaeus took part in a flood-eating competition. The contestants had to eat slugs, bugs and rotting meat as quickly as they could. "Did you come first?" I asked. "No, but I was sickened!" she said. Not an altogether unexpected result!

Write to:  
Kim,  
The Lion King  
PO Box 1,  
Hunting, TAS 546.

Kim



Shona Mason, age 6



## SHARKS GET AHEAD

You should resist the urge to laugh at the hammerhead shark's odd bone, because it is a secret weapon of great cunning. Sharks have receptors in their snouts which can pick up small electrical currents caused by the muscles of their prey. They can even detect the beating of a heart. In hammerhead sharks, the receptors are spread out along the head. This helps them to pin-point their prey with great accuracy, even if it's a flatfish skulking in the sand of the seabed.

PRESS CARD

Science & Technology  
Elephant



## PIKAS IN A PICKLE

Some Asian pikas had to work fast last night when rain threatened to ruin their harvest. They had been working hard all day, cutting down the plants with their sharp teeth and arranging them in small bundles to dry on sun-warmed rocks. They store this dry fodder underground to eat in the winter. Then the rain fell unexpectedly and it was 'all paws on deck' for a while.

PRESS CARD

Gap Press  
Elephant



What do you call a mouse in the desert?  
pipped y  
Carrie McCall



## UNDERWATER BLUNDER

I have to confess I made a bit of a fool of myself recently. Mrs Octopus was talking about her sea cucumbers and I asked her if they would be ready to pick soon. Of course I now realize that sea cucumbers are not salad fruit, but animals. They are related to starfishes and sea urchins and live on the ocean floor. Mrs Octopus must think I'm a bit of a 'fruit-cake'.

PRESS CARD

Gardening  
Elephant



Adrian McDonald



What's white outside, green inside and happy?  
parapara bang y  
Kelly Mitchell



There are six lizards, like this one, lurking in this magazine. Can you see them?

WATCH OUT FOR



## CONTENTS

54



SIMBA'S WORLD  
Elephant Families

The Missing Monkey  
Part 1



Wacky Weaving

Starting Bugs



New Zealand

Simba Flees



On Your Marks...



BAFIN REMEMBERS

The Bear Feast

## FREE IN PART 55

A surprise sticker to fix to your window.



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# SIMBA'S WORLD

IT IS THE MOTHER ELEPHANT, WITH THE HELP OF OTHER FEMALES IN HER FAMILY GROUP, WHO RAISES THE BABY. THE FATHER HAS LITTLE OR NO CONTACT WITH THE YOUNGSTER AS ADULT BULLS USUALLY LIVE APART.

## Elephant Families

A female African elephant is pregnant for 22 months. When she gives birth, she is often surrounded and protected by several of the other females in her group which shriek and trumpet excitedly. They help the mother to get her baby up on its feet as soon as possible in case there are lions or hyenas nearby. The newborn weighs as

much as an adult man and is tall enough to reach its mother's breasts, which are just behind the front legs.

For the first few days, the baby spends much of its time sheltering under its mother's belly. If it seems to stray away, the watchful mother guides it back with her trunk.

**✓ READY, STEADY...**  
It can take up to two hours before a baby is strong enough to stand up. The mother and several other females encourage it to get up, using their trunks and feet.

### WOW!

Elephants have the largest and heaviest brain of all land mammals. They have excellent memories, too. Some groups make journeys of up to 1000km long, led by a female who remembers where all the waterholes are along the route.

**► FIRST DRINK**  
The baby uses its trunk to find the mother's teats, but drinks her milk with its mouth.



**▲ PUSH AND HEAVE**  
Young elephants often play fight, pushing and bumping against each other with their trunks twisted together or looped over their opponent's head.

### ENDANGERED!

Since ancient times, elephants have been hunted and killed for their ivory tusks. So many have been killed this century that trading in ivory is now banned. In Africa, national parks have been set up to protect the elephants, which need plenty of space and trees for food. Experts think there are about 600,000 left in Africa.



## ALL TOGETHER

Elephants are remarkably loyal to members of their family or group. If one of the group is injured or sick, two or more adults will try to keep it upright between their bodies. If the struggling elephant falls down, several of them will try to lift it up again with their trunks.

When a group senses possible danger, such as humans approaching, the adult elephants make a tight circle, with the calves hidden from view in the centre. Then the matriarch faces the danger. Sometimes she makes a retreat, keeping her group hunched together to protect the young, and sometimes she decides to charge.

### ◀ CHARGE!

The matriarch will protect the group from danger by charging towards the intruder, with ears spread out, tail held high and trumpeting loudly.

## FRIENDS AND RELATIONS

Asian elephants are slightly smaller than their African cousins. Their ears are noticeably smaller and only the males have long tusks – the females have very short ones. Asian elephants mainly live in forests in mountainous parts of India and south-eastern Asia.

### ▶ SMALL EARS

Having smaller ears is helpful to forest-dwelling Asian elephants as huge ones would probably get snagged by branches all the time. Also, shady forests are cooler than open savannahs so they don't need big ears to keep themselves cool.



## SIMBA SAYS

When baby elephants are born they have tiny tusks – about 5cm long – which fall out when they're about a year old. Then they grow these big curved ones which are useful for digging, fighting and stripping bark off trees.

Have you ever seen fully grown elephants with one tusk much shorter than the other? Sometimes the tip of one breaks off and sometimes they use one much more than the other, so that it wears away. Don't ask me why.

## THE INSIDE STORY

In parts of Africa, huge piles of elephants' bones are sometimes found in one place. People used to believe that these were elephants' graveyards and that the elephants had chosen these particular sites to die in. But, there may be other reasons for these piles of bones. They could have been washed up by flood waters; large numbers of elephants may have gathered to drink at a waterhole and died because the hole dried up during a drought; or poachers may have killed many elephants belonging to the same group and left their bones in a pile.



### A SHORT NAP

Elephants usually sleep standing up, but sometimes they lie down in the shade for a short nap. They only rest for about three or four hours a day.



**NAKUN  
MATATA**  
**NO WORRIES!**

"I'm bored!" roared Simba, leaping from one rock to another.

"Just watch where you're putting those great padded paws, pal!" called Pumbaa, as he wallowed in a shallow pool of mud.

"Anyway, how can you be bored when there's so much to do?" he added.

"Do? Like what?" scowled Simba, spinning round.

"Like... like lazing in lovely, gooey, sticky mud!" sighed Pumbaa.

"Well, I'm getting out of here! I'm off to see the rest of the world before I'm too old!" muttered Simba. "Who's coming?"

"Count me in!" cried Timon, who had been sniffing the whiffy air round Pumbaa. "I'm a bit worried... because I am actually beginning to like the smell of this mud-encrusted critter!"

As Simba and Timon set off, Pumbaa rolled over and grunted contentedly.

"Hey, buddy! Why don't you move on, too!" said a slow, deep voice. "We live out air clean, know what I mean?"

"What?" yawned Pumbaa. Opening one eye, he spotted a strange-looking lizard, sitting on a nearby rock. "Well," mumbled Pumbaa, sleepily, "I reckon there is plenty of room round here for the two of us!"

"Make that the three of us!" said another voice.

"Four!" said another.

"Try five!" interrupted another.

Suddenly,

Pumbaa was wide awake as low, drooling voices called to him from all directions. There were lizards

everywhere! Pumbaa blinked rapidly. When he opened his eyes and looked again, the lizards had vanished!

"I guess they realized that I'm the boss round here!" sighed Pumbaa, as he lay down in the mud once again.

"Don't you believe it, you whiffy old warthog!" whispered a voice in his ear.

"W-where did you come from?" gasped Pumbaa.

"The same place as us!" cackled the other lizards, as they slowly padded towards Pumbaa over the rocks and dry, caked earth.

"I must b-be d-d-dreaming!" cried Pumbaa, shaking his head from side to side. One moment the lizards were all round him, then, in the blink of an eye, they'd vanished!

"Now you see us - now you don't! We're your worst nightmare!" hissed a lizard, as it crawled over Pumbaa.

Frozen with fear, poor Pumbaa couldn't even manage to twitch a mud-caked muscle!

"All this mud is making me mud!" gasped Pumbaa, at last. "Suddenly, travelling the world with Simba doesn't seem such a bad idea, after all! Hang on! Wait for me, Simba!"

As Pumbaa raced through bushes to find his friends, he could hear that the lizards were still laughing.

"That warthog must be the only one around here who doesn't know that we chameleons can change colour!"

laughed Nowyousee me. As he ambled from a sun-scorched rock to the bark of a tree, Nowyousee me changed from grey to brown.

By the time Pumbaa caught up with Timon and Simba, he was so puffed out that he could hardly get out the words of his story.

"H-he-y, g-guys! I've just s-seen some invis-ible, r-really s-scary creature things!" babbled Pumbaa. "S-save me! I want my m-mummy!"

"You great whinging warthog!" grinned Timon. "How could you see something that's invisible, huh?"

"Cool it, you guys! I think we have company!" whispered Simba.

Swinging towards them from the branches of a tree was a monkey - and it didn't look at all happy!

Beating its chest, the monkey swooped down, then plucked the astonished Timon up into the air!

"Put me down, you daft creature!" cried Timon, trying to wriggle free. But the monkey was very strong.





"Oo, ooh, oooh!" shrieked the monkey, as it swung from one vine to another, Timon under his arm.

"Hey, you ugly baboon, it is Pumbaa who wants his mummy, not me!" gasped Timon.

"Let's get after him!" roared Simba. "I don't like the look of that!" Simba, closely followed by Pumbaa, raced deeper and deeper into the jungle, trying hard to keep pace with the departing monkey. At last they came to a halt in a small clearing.

"Shhhhh!" whispered Simba, as the monkey swung to the ground. "We don't want to upset that monkey. If we do, we might never see Timon again in one piece!"

"Just when I was getting used to having that little fellow around, too!" said Pumbaa, sniffing loudly.

Sitting in the middle of the grassy clearing was another monkey, who looked very sad. When she heard the rustling of leaves, the monkey, whose name was Mayika, looked up. Her clever husband, Mayik, had returned with a new baby for her!

"Put me down, you bullying baboon!" shouted Timon, as Mayik gently placed the meerkat in the waiting arms of his wife.

"Lively little thing, isn't he?" grinned Mayik, tickling Timon under the chin. "Oh, by the way, little chap, I'm not a baboon! I am a monkey!"

Crooning, Mayika hummed a tune as she gently rocked her new 'baby' to and fro in her arms.

"Now that's what I call really sweet!" giggled Pumbaa, watching the scene from behind a bush.

Pumbaa laughed so much, he stumbled and fell against a tree. "Someone's out there!"



growled Mayik, as hundreds of birds flew out of the shaken tree, watering with fright.

Holding Timon protectively, Mayika cried, "Please don't let anything hurt my new baby, Mayik!"

Stepping into the clearing, Simba coughed and cleared his throat.

"We've come to take our friend," he said, bravely. "He's a meerkat. He doesn't belong with you monkeys!"

"He's your friend, you say?" asked Mayik, frowning.

"But he's our baby now, isn't he, Mayik?" said Mayika in a hushed voice. "Our own son was lost in the jungle, you see. Without a baby to take care of, I feel as if I have nothing to live for!"

Simba thought for a while. "What would his wise father, King Mufasa, have done in this tricky situation?"

"We will help you to search for your lost son!" said Simba at last.

"I'm sure that's what my father would have wanted us to do!"

Mayika was grateful, but wanted to look for her son straight away.

"But, my dear, we must all sleep first," smiled Mayik, tenderly putting an arm round his wife. "It's getting dark now, and soon we won't be able to see anything. We'll begin the search for our son at sunrise."

As the three friends lay under the stars, Simba looked up into the twinkling night sky and sighed.

"I wish I had friends and a loving family searching for me!" he whispered, a tear trickling down on to his cheek. "The world is a much bigger, lonelier place than I ever imagined. I don't know how, or where, but we will find you, little lost monkey, we will find you!"

**NEXT WEEK: THE SEARCH BEGINS!**

## Box Weaving

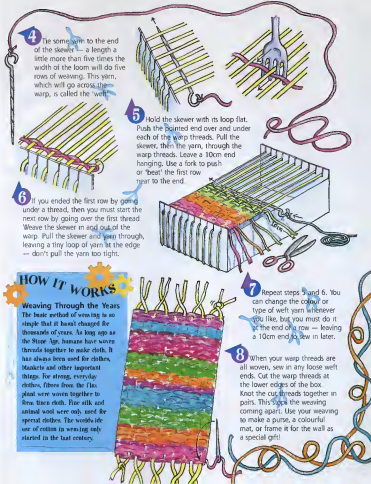
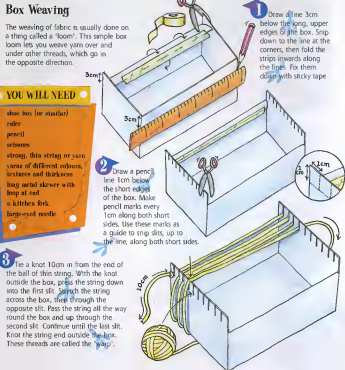
The weaving of fabric is usually done on a thing called a 'loom'. This simple box loom lets you weave yarn over and under other threads, which go in the opposite direction.

### YOU WILL NEED

shoe box (or similar)  
ruler  
pencil  
scissors  
strong, thin string or yarn  
yarns of different colours, textures and thickness  
long metal skewer with loop at end  
a kitchen fork  
large-eyed needle

## Wacky Weaving

Intertwined jungle vines and the nest of the weaver bird are examples of weaving in nature. The basic principles of weaving are easy, so here are two different ideas to start you off!



## HOW IT WORKS

### Weaving Through the Years

The basic method of weaving is so simple that it hasn't changed for thousands of years. As long ago as the Stone Age, humans have woven threads together to make cloth. It has always been used for clothes, blankets and other important things. For strong, everyday clothes, fibres from the flax plant were woven together to form linen cloth. Fine silk and animal wool were only used for special clothes. The world's first use of cotton in weaving only started in the last century.

4 Tie some yarn to the end of the skewer — a length a little more than five times the width of the loom will do five rows of weaving. This yarn, which will go across the warp, is called the 'weft'.

5 Hold the skewer with its loop flat. Push the pointed end over and under each of the warp threads. Pull the skewer, then the yarn, through the warp threads. Leave a 10cm end hanging. Use a fork to push or 'beat' the first row near to the end.

6 If you ended the first row by going under a thread, then you must start the next row by going over the first thread. Weave the skewer in and out of the warp. Pull the skewer and yarn through, leaving a tiny loop of yarn at the edge — don't pull the yarn too tight.

7 Repeat steps 5 and 6. You can change the colour or type of weft yarn whenever you like, but you must do it at the end of a row — leaving a 10cm end to sew in later.

8 When your warp threads are all woven, sew in any loose weft ends. Cut the warp threads at the lower edges of the box. Knot the cut threads together in pairs. This stops the weaving coming apart. Use your weaving to make a purse, a colourful mat, or frame it for the wall as a special gift!



## Frame Loom Weaving

This simple picture-frame loom lets you make bigger pieces of weaving. Whatever you use as a frame, it must be rigid. Remember that you can weave in strips of just about anything!

**1** Tie the end of the warp string in the corner of the shorter side of the frame. Wind the string tightly round and round the frame, keeping the loops about 2cm apart. When the frame is full, knot the end at the other corner.

**2** To hold the upper and lower warp threads level, thread a string through both ends of the frame. Pull tightly and tie the ends on to the frame, as shown.

**3** Use a shuttle or your hands to weave the weft over and under the warp. Change weft at the end of a row, leaving an end long enough to sew in later — or, if it is paper, to fold under and glue down.

**4** For really exciting weaving, use lots of different textures and colours for the weft. When finished, tuck, sew or glue in any loose ends. To decorate the weaving further, you can push in feathers, sew on beads, bows or whatever takes your fancy. Cut the warp threads and knot them, as for the box loom weaving.

gift ribbon  
hairy wool  
fabric strip  
natural raffia  
fabric strip  
mohair yarn  
gift ribbon  
crêpe paper  
grasses  
fabric strip  
fabric strip  
wool  
ribbon  
wool



## STARTLING TACTICS

Many insects rely on camouflage to protect themselves against hungry birds and lizards. But if they are spotted, they have another trick to put off their predators.

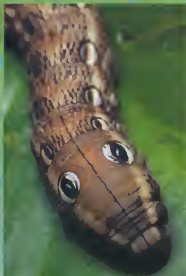
Camouflage doesn't always work. Sometimes a sharp-eyed bird or lizard can pick out a leaf-like butterfly or a crawling caterpillar on the forest floor. But some of these bugs use another trick to avoid being eaten. By moving certain parts of their bodies they put on a display of bold patterns or bright colours, such as orange and black, which signal that the bug is dangerous. The startled predator goes elsewhere to look for a meal!



**3** When they're feeding on the forest floor, these butterflies hold up the dull-coloured undersides of their wings which makes it difficult for predators to pick them out. If they are spotted, they flick open their wings to reveal startling orange and black patterns.



**4** As soon as this hawk moth caterpillar feels a vibration on the plant where it is feeding, it pulls in its head so that the bold markings behind the head now look like huge eyes. Then it jerks the front part of its body from side to side, just like a snake.







# NEW ZEALAND

THIS IS A LAND OF ICY MOUNTAINS AND COOL, DAMP FORESTS. BUT NOT FAR BELOW, EARTH'S MOLTEN MAGMA IS LOOKING FOR A CHANCE TO ESCAPE — AND IT OFTEN DOES.

New Zealand lies in the southern Pacific Ocean, 1500km south-east of Australia and 2300km north of Antarctica. It has two main islands, North Island and South Island. Both are long and narrow. A journey from the top to the bottom would be 1770km long and nowhere along the way would be very far from the sea.

Both islands are mountainous. South Island has the spectacular Southern Alps running along its entire length. There are many high-altitude lakes and also glaciers creeping slowly downhill. The rivers, on the other hand, tumble quickly down to the sea. Many of New Zealand's peaks are actually volcanoes. Some of them are still active and occasionally send forth ash and steam.

New Zealand has many unique plants. On the west coast of South Island are areas of ancient forest with a rich variety of trees, tree ferns, ground ferns

Unlike most frogs, young Hochtetter's frogs do not go through a free-living tadpole stage.



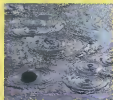
"I'm as heisen.  
A pool of  
bubbling hot mud."  
"That's it I'll  
never get him to  
leave now."

and mosses. There are evergreen giants called kauris which can grow up to 40m in height. The oldest are 2000 years old.

The only native land mammals on New Zealand are both bats; they were able to fly here. The islands' other mammals — opossums, rabbits, goats, deer



► **FIELDS OF GREEN**  
Even though much of New Zealand is mountainous, there are lowland areas where people can keep farms.



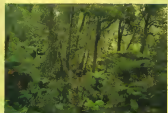
► **HUBBLE BUBBLE**  
Heat from inside the Earth warms up mud until it boils.

and rats — were brought by humans. There are no snakes, only a few reptiles, and these native frogs. Among them is the very curious Hochtetter's frog whose young develop inside a yolked egg and hatch as froglets. There are also about 250 different kinds of birds, 50 of which are not found anywhere else.



► **DESIDE THE SEA**  
Nowhere in New Zealand is very far from the sea. This wooded coastline is on South Island.

► **THE BUSH**  
In the west, large areas of ancient rainforest remain. In New Zealand it is called "the bush".



► **LOFTY PEAKS**  
Mtn peak is just one of the mountains in the Southern Alps.

► **LET OFF STEAM**  
Geysers are eruptions of hot water and steam from below ground.





"Why are so many of these birds flightless, Timon?"

"Maybe they're scared of heights, Pumbaa."



Fourteen of New Zealand's bird species are poor flyers or actually flightless. Their ancestors may well have been able to fly, but they have lived here for so long, without mammal predators to bother them, that they have lost the power of flight. Among them are the weka, pukeko and the rare takahē. In the forests and mountains lives a rare flightless parrot, the kakapo.

The most famous flightless bird on New Zealand is the kiwi. These stumpy, swift-running birds feed mainly at night. Unusually for birds, they have a good sense of smell. Their nostrils are at the end of their beaks and they find worms and insect larvae by thrusting their beaks into the soil and sniffing them out.

In the forests, there are also songbirds, such as the colourful bellbird with its distinctive bell-like call. Fantails flutter around you as you walk through the bush. They are inquisitive birds, but they are not just being friendly, they are snapping up insects that you disturb as you walk along.

A bellbird will sometimes hang upside-down to feed on nectar from a flower.



◀ **HOOKE BILL**  
Kais use their hooked bills to tear into fruit and dead animals.



Kakapos are warden who like to stick to favorite paths through the undergrowth.



When pukekos are nervous, they flick up their tails to show a flash of white feathers.

▶ **A NIGHT FEEDER**  
Kiwis feed at night. They can be heard snuffling and snorting as they search for food.



▶ **BEACH BABES**  
Yellow-eyed penguins, or hoiho, nest in coastal scrub in the south-east of South Island.

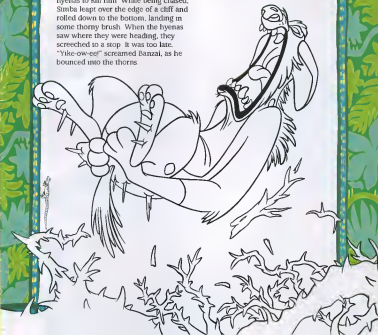
Moreporks hunt at night, sometimes snatching insects in mid-air with their sharp talons.



## THE LION KING COLOUR IT IN

### Simba Flees

After Mufasa's death, Scar told Simba to run away and the little lion fled. Scar then ordered the hyenas to kill him. While being chased, Simba leapt over the edge of a cliff and rolled down to the bottom, landing in some thorny brush. When the hyenas saw where they were heading, they screeched to a stop. It was too late. "Yike-ow-eef" screamed Banzai, as he bounced into the thorns.



# PUZZLES

## ON YOUR MARKS...

Shaba and Timon are having a race on a couple of ostriches, while Pumbaa is waiting at the finishing line to decide who wins. The ostriches claim to be identical twins, but there are six differences between them. Can you spot all six?



### WHO DARES WINS

Can you turn RACE into WINS by changing one letter at a time? The clues below will help you.

- 1 A type of grain which the Chinese eat a lot of.
- 2 To go up/ascend.
- 3 Someone who knows many things is ....
- 4 A drink made from grapes.

R	A	C	E
1			
2			
3			
4			
W	I	N	S

	LONG JUMP	HIGH JUMP	STICK THROWING	RUNNING
TIMON				21
SIMBA				23
PUMBA				25

### SCOREBOARD

Timon, Shaba and Pumbaa have been sporty all day. They've competed in four events - long jump, high jump, stick throwing and running.

By looking at their final scores on the scoreboard can you work out how many times each of them came first, second and third?

- 1st place = 30 points
- 2nd place = 5 points
- 3rd place = 3 points

## MORE PUZZLES



### SWIFT ON FOOT

The animals listed below are among the top ten fastest mammals in the world. Once you have fitted their names into the grid below, the shaded column will reveal the name of one of the fastest animals in the world.



HARE  
GAZELLE  
ANTELOPE  
CHEETAH  
SPRINGBOK

### SNAIL'S PACE

Drawn round the edge of the page are four hungry snails, each racing to get to a tasty lettuce. Each coloured dot is worth a different amount of time. Add up the dots along each snail's trail to see how long each snail took. Which snail got to their lettuce first? Which snail was the slowest?

A red dot = 1 minute  
A yellow dot = 3 minutes  
A green dot = 5 minutes

### SEAFARER

Join the dots to discover which creature is the fastest in the sea.

### MATCH WINNERS

Which of the eight squares shown here are taken from the picture on the previous page?



## RAFIKI REMEMBERS

# THE BEAN FEAST

THIS TIME  
THE WICKED  
SPIDER  
CONTRIVES TO  
HAVE A BEAN  
FEAST ALL TO  
HIMSELF - BUT  
HOW?

Anansi and his wife decided to buy a farm and grow vegetables. They planted plantains, peppers, tomatoes, aubergines and yams - but, most of all, they planted beans.

Anansi loved beans. As he and his wife worked on their farm, they watched the yam vines grow bushy, the tomatoes grow plump, the plantains grow tall. But when the beans started to smell sweet and sway on their stalks, Anansi's mouth began to water.

"What a good idea it was to grow our own beans!" he said, surveying the crop. "These beans look the best I've ever seen. In fact,

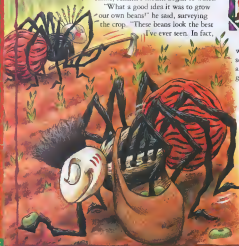
it's a pity I have to share them." And he sat down deep in thought. He was thinking of ways in which he might keep the beans to himself.



Some time later, he said to his wife "I have a feeling that I will die soon. If I do, bury me on the farm and put some cooking things in my grave for my spirit."

A few days later, Anansi grew sick and died. He was buried according to his wishes. And then, according to custom, all friends and family went into mourning for forty days and kept away from the farm.

Of course, Anansi was only pretending - he wasn't dead at all! As soon as the mourners had left his grave, he was up and picking beans as fast as his eight legs would let him. He made a fire by the side of the field and cooked his beans. And every night he had a bean feast.



By the time forty days had passed, all the beans had been picked and eaten. When Anansi's wife saw her bare bean fields, she cursed the thief out loud. "May the one who stole my beans die a dreadful death!" she cried.

"Hush now!" replied a voice. "Mourn the loss of a husband, not the loss of your beans!"

Anansi's wife recognized the voice instantly and, after a while, guessed what had happened. She decided to play a trick of her own. The next day, she brought her eldest son to the farm and took him to a tree. "Now I want you to cut down this tree here," she said, showing him where to cut.

The son sawed away, then said, "When this tree falls, it will fall on my father's grave."

"It can't be helped," replied his mother.

"You better run then, because it's going to fall now!" yelled the son.

Anansi heard his son and was seized with fear. He rushed out from the grave, calling, "This is the ghost of Anansi!"

"Nonsense!" said his wife. "You just pretended to die, because you wanted the beans to yourself. May you die of greed!" And with that, she began to chase Anansi.

Anansi raced into a bush and hid among the leaves, feeling very ashamed. And that's where you will always find spiders - hiding in the leaves.



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